Child Health Programme, funds are provided for the construction/ repair/maintenance of operation theatres and labour rooms, and for upgradation of water and electric supply in the primary health care institutions.

AIDS virus testing facility in blood banks

2296. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the blood banks in the country have been directed to procure blood only after establishing it as free from AIDS virus;

(b) if so, whether every blood bank is fully equipped to test AIDS virus; and

(c) if not, the steps Government propose to take so that a large number of patients are not affected through HIV positive blood transfusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules clearly direct that every unit of blood in the blood bank is tested for HIV infection, and only HIV sero-negative blood is issued for purposes of blood transfusion and/or for any other uses. To ensure this, every blood bank is equipped with HIV test kits or then further linked to a larger blood bank, where these facilities are available.

Home remedies kit scheme

2297. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Home Remedies Kit" scheme has been launched/ proposed to be launched;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the States covered under the scheme; and

(c) the details/worth of the Kits given to each family?